

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE PARIS ROME GENEVA USUN FROM
WELLINGTON DECEMBER 5TH

QUOTE

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DEPT PASS ALL COLOMBO PLAN MISSION COUNTRIES

PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FAO

EO 11652 NA

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: COLOMBO PLAN: DRUG ADVISER'S PROGRAM

A. WELLINGTON 3137 B. A-218 WELLINGTON DEC 6, 1973

1. IN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON DEC 4, LEADERS OF DELEGATIONS DISCUSSED DRUG ADVISER'S PROGRAM IN THEIR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE OFFICIALS' MEETING REPORT AND THE ANNUAL REPORT. SIX LEADERS OF MINISTERIAL DELEGATIONS COMMENTED FAVORABLY EITHER ON THE DRUG ADVISER'S PROGRAM OR ON NATIONAL MEASURES OF DRUG ABUSE CONTROL, AS SUMMARIZED BELOW. (THESE COMMENTS MUST BE TAKEN AS SUPPLEMENTATRY TO THE DISCUSSION IN THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE IN WHICH TEN DELEGATIONS PARTICIPATED, AS REPORTED IN REF TELEGRAM AND AIRGRAM). CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HEARD WITHOUT OBJECTION AND SEEMED TO FAVOR CANADIAN SUGGESTION THAT DRUG ADVISER'S PROGRAM BE REVIED AND SSESSED AND SOME RECOMMENDATIONS ON ITS CONTINUATION OR OTHWERWISE BE PREPARED, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COLOMBO PLAN COUNCIL'S EXAMINATION OF MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE AT ITS NEXT MEETING.

2. CANADA (HADWEN) RECALLED BEGINNING OF DRUG ADVISER'S PROGRAM AT 1972 NEW DELHI MEETING WITH BROAD GENERAL SUPPORT. IT WAS HIS IMPORESSION THAT PROGRAM WHICH WAS NOW ONLY A FEW MONTHS OLD HAD BEEN GOING RATHER WELL. IT PRESENTED A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO MEMBER COUNTRIES. NOTING US OFFER TO CONTINUE FINANCING PROGRAM FOR ADDITIONAL YEAR, HE SUGGESTED THAT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE REQUEST COUNCIL FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TECHNICAL COOPERATION TO BEGIN EARLY IN 1974 TO ASSESS VALUE OF PROGRAM AND TO MAKE RECOMMEDNDATIONS TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS REGARDING ITS CONTINUATION OR OTHWERWISE. IN THIS WAY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WOULD BE PREPARD AT NEXT MEETING TO MAKE DECISION ABOUT THE PRIORITY AND FUNDING OF THIS PROGRAM. THERE BEING NO OBJECTION CHAIRMAN DECLARED IT WAS SENSE OF MEETING THAT THIS SUGGESTION BE ACCEPTED.

3. US (WILLIAMS). DRUG ADVISER SEEMS TO HAVE MADE PROMISING START. REPORT HE WOULD MAKE TO NEXT MEETING WOULD BE IMPORTANT. MEMBER COUNTRIES BY SHARING EXPERIENCE COULD HELP EACH OTHER IN THIS FIELD.

4. MALAYSIA (RITHAUDDEEN): DRUG ABUSE DESERVES SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BY MEMBER COUNTRIES. PRELIMINARY REPORT OF DRUG ADVISER SHOWS THAT PROBLEM IS OF MAGNITUDE REQUIRING ACTION AT BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS. MALAYSIA HAS ESTABLISHED A CENTRAL NARCOTICS BUREAU TO MAKE ITS NATIONAL EFFORT MORE EFFECTIVE. MEMBERS SHOULD SEEK TO EXPAND THEIR COOPERATION IN THIS FIELD.

5. (UK WOOD): UN MACHINERY WOULD HOPEFULLY SUCCEED IN ESTABLISHING MEASURES TO BRING DRUGS UNDER CONTROL. EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO US FOR CONTINUING TO FINANCE PROGRAM, HE FELT IT WOULD BE WISE TO AWAIT RESULTS OF DRUG ADVISER'S WORK AND TO CONSIDER THE MATTER IN GREATER DEPTH AT NEXT MEETING.

6. IRAN (GHAFARZADEH): IRAN HAD BEEN A LEADING COUNTRY IN STUDYING AND CURBING DRUG ABUSE, WHICH HAS AN ADVERSE ECONOMIC EFFECT ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND FARMERS. IRAN'S EFFORTS WERE LIMITED BY WHAT ITS NEIGHBORS DID, AND IRAN WAS HAPPY TO SEE ITS NEIGHBORS ENGAGING IN CROP REPLACEMENT PROGRAMS. IRAN WOULD LIKE TO SEE DRUG ADVISER DEPART FROM "CLASSIC" APPROACH TO DRUG ABUSE (HE INDICATED INFORMALLY TO USDEL HE ADVOCATED PRACTICAL MEASURES TO CLOSE OFF SOURCES OF SUPPLY). IRAN WOULD BE GLAD TO ASSIST BUREAU ON THIS PROGRAM AND INVITED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DRUG ADVISER TO VISIT IRAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN HOPE THAT IRANIAN EXPERIENCE WOULD HELP HIM TO DO A BETTER JOB.

7. PAKISTAN (ROY): PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT HAS RECENTLY TAKEN MEASURES TO CHECK DRUG PRODUCTION AND USE AND TO "IMPROVE" THE ERADICATION OF DRUG ABUSE.

8. USDEL HAD INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF DRUG ABUSE CONTROL ALSO WITH LEADERS OF FOLLOWING OTHER DELEGATIONS WHO DID NOT SPEAK ON THIS ITEM IN FORMAL MINISTERIAL MEETING, NAMELY AUSTRALIA, INDONESIA, KHMER REPUBLIC, KOREA, LAOS, NEPAL, NEW ZEALAND, SINGAPORE AND VIETNAM.
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